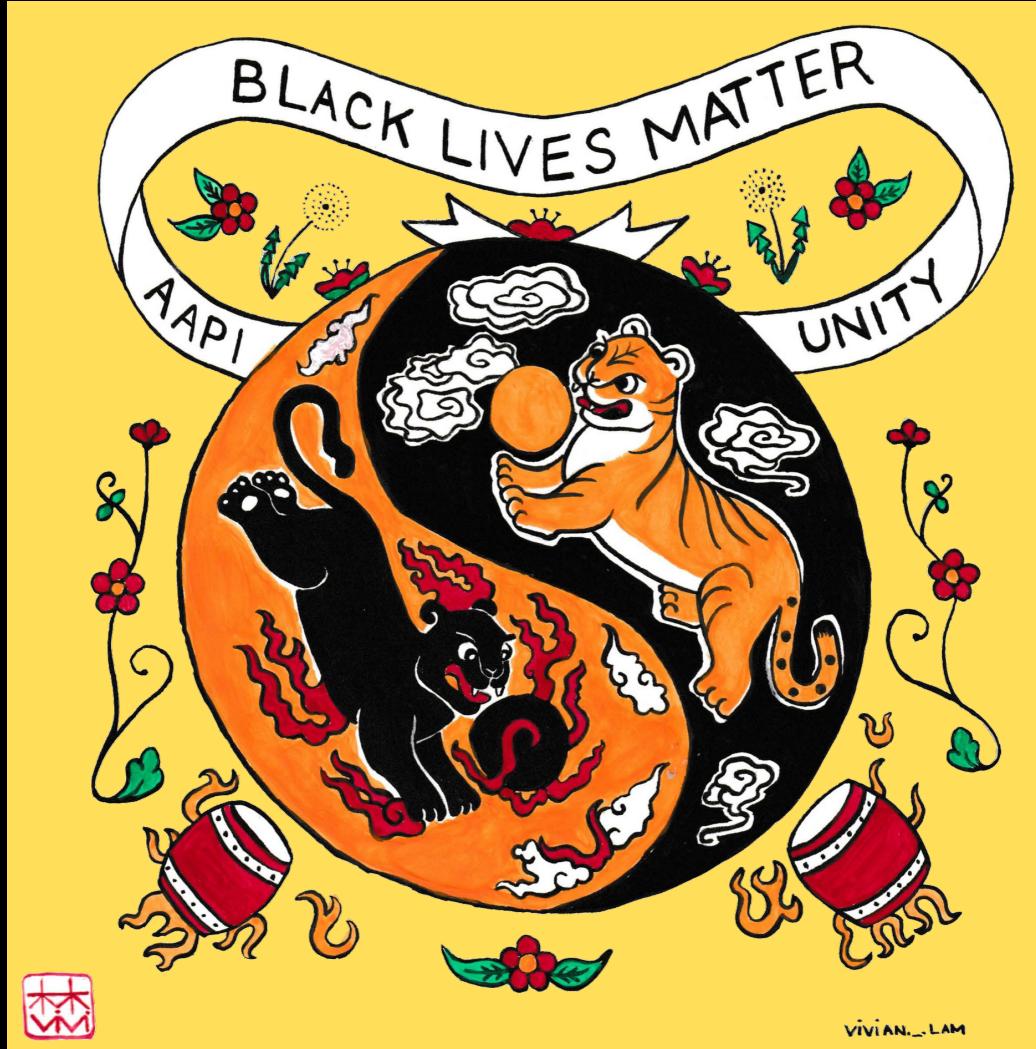


# HOW TO FIGHT ANTI-BLACKNESS IN THE ASIAN COMMUNITY

## a resource guide

BLACK LIVES MATTER BLACK LIVES MATTER



Art: @vivian\_.lam

CREATED BY MIDDLEBURY RAISINS

BLACK LIVES MATTER BLACK LIVES MATTER

# a message from RAISINS

Watching Officer Tou Thao, an Asian man, stand by and do nothing as Officer Chauvin brutally murdered Floyd was a powerful reminder of the passivity that has existed in the Asian community during instances of oppression against Black bodies. This has provided the Asian community an important opportunity to look within and ensure that passivity at the hands of white oppression comes to an end.

Racist police violence is far from the only manifestation of violence against Black people in the US: we must work to fight mass incarceration, gentrification, unequal pay, inaccessible housing & education and much more. Fighting police brutality helps combat other injustices.

This resource guide highlights ways that the Asian community can step up and take action rather than continuing to remain passive on the sidelines.

- Melanie Chow, Nhi Dang & the rest of the RAISINS Collective

@middraisins



# WHY ASIANS NEED TO SUPPORT BLACK LIVES NOW

## MASS INCARCERATION OF BLACK BODIES

- BLACK MALES BORN IN 2001 HAVE A 32% CHANCE OF GOING TO JAIL, COMPARED TO THE 17% LATINO MALES, AND 6% WHITE MALES
- BLACK WOMEN ARE 2X MORE LIKELY TO BE INCARCERATED THAN THEIR WHITE COUNTERPARTS
- BLACK MALES MAKE UP 6% OF THE US POPULATION BUT 40% OF THE INCARCERATED POPULATION

## POLICE VIOLENCE AGAINST BLACK BODIES

- BLACK PEOPLE ARE 2.5X MORE LIKELY TO BE KILLED BY POLICE THAN THEIR WHITE COUNTERPARTS
- IN 2019, BLACK PEOPLE ACCOUNTED FOR 24% OF PEOPLE KILLED AT THE HANDS OF POLICE - DESPITE ONLY MAKING UP 13% OF THE POPULATION
- IN RECENT MINNEAPOLIS PROTESTS FOLLOWING GEORGE FLOYD'S DEATH, POLICE USED FORCE AGAINST BLACK PROTESTERS AT 7X THE RATE USED AGAINST WHITES

# black lives matter

not just today, not just  
tomorrow, but everyday.

Michael Lorenzo Dean  
Eric Reason  
Christopher McCorvey  
Steven Day  
Christopher Whitfield  
Atatiana Jefferson  
Maurice Holly  
Jordan Michael Griffin  
Nicholas Walker  
Bennie Branch  
Byron Williams  
Arthur Walton Jr.  
Channara Tom Pheap  
Patricia Spivey  
Stephan Murray  
Ryan Twyman  
Dominique Clayton  
Isaiah Lewis  
Kevin Leroy Beasley Jr.  
Julius Graves  
Marcus McVae  
Marques Scott  
Bishar Hassan  
Kevin Bruce Mason  
Mario Clark  
Jimmy Atchison  
D'ettrick Griffin  
George Robinson  
Andre Horton  
Jesse Jesus Quinton  
Mahlon Edward Summerour  
Charles D. Roundtree Jr.  
Chinedu Valentine Okobi  
Antone G. Black Jr.  
Darell Richards  
Botham Shem Jean  
James Leatherwood  
Joshua Wayne Harvey  
Christopher Alexander Okamoto  
Cynthia Fields  
Rashawn Washington  
Anthony Marcell Green  
Antwon Michael Rose II  
Robert Lawrence White  
Marcus-David L. Peters  
Terrance Carlton  
Juan Markee Jones  
Danny Ray Thomas  
Stephon Clark  
Trey Ta'Quan Pringle Sr.  
Ronell Foster  
Corey Mobley  
Arthur McAfee Jr.  
Geraldine Townsend  
Warren Ragudo  
Thomas Yatsko  
Dennis Plowden  
Jean Pedro Pierre  
Keita O'Neil  
Lawrence Hawkins  
Calvin Toney  
Dewboy Lister  
Armando Frank  
Stephen Gayle  
William Matthew Holmes  
Anthony Antonio Ford  
Charles David Robinson  
Devin Howell  
Herbert Gilbert  
Thomas Williams  
Aries Clark  
Antonio Garcia Jr.  
Brian Easley  
Euree Lee Martin  
DeJuan Guillory  
Aaron Bailey  
Joshua Terrell Crawford  
Marc Brandon Davis  
Adam Trammell  
Jimmie Montel Sanders  
DeRico Devante Holdon  
Mark Roshawn Adkins  
Tashii S. Brown  
Jordan Edwards  
Roderick Ronall Taylor  
Kenneth Johnson  
Christopher Wade  
Alteria Woods  
Sherida Davis  
Lorenzo Antoine Cruz  
Chance David Baker  
Raynard Burton  
Quanice Derrick Hayes  
Chad Robertson  
Jerome Keith Allen  
Nana Adomako  
Marquez Warren  
Deaundre Phillips  
Sabin Marcus Jones  
Darian M. Barnhill  
JR Williams  
Muhammad Abdul Muhamymin  
Jamal Robbins  
Marlon Lewis  
Ritchie Lee Harbison  
Lamont Perry  
Roy Lee Richards  
Alfred Olando  
Tawon Boyd  
Terrence Crutcher  
Tyre King  
Levonia Riggins  
Kendrick Brown  
Donnell Thompson Jr.  
Davin Hollins  
Delrawn Small  
Sherman Evans  
Deravis Rogers  
Antwun Shumpert  
Ollie Lee Brooks  
Michael Eugene Wilson Jr.  
Vernell Bing Jr.  
Jessica Williams  
Arthur R. Williams Jr.  
Lionel Gibson  
Charlin Charles  
Kevin Hicks  
Dominique Silva  
Robert Dentmond  
India M. Beaty  
Torrey Lamar Robinson  
Peter William Gaines  
Arteair Porter  
Kionte DeShaun Spencer  
Christopher J. Davis  
Thomas Lane  
Paul Gaston  
Calin Devante Roquemore  
Dyzhawn L. Perkins  
David Joseph  
Wendell Celestine Jr.  
Antronie Scott  
Peter John  
Keith Childress  
Bettie Jones  
Kevin Matthews  
Michael Noel  
Leroy Browning  
Miguel Espinal  
Nathaniel Pickett  
Cornelius Brown  
Tiara Thomas  
Richard Perkins  
Jamar Clark  
Alonzo Smith  
Anthony Ashford  
Dominic Hutchinson  
Lamontez Jones  
Rayshaun Cole  
Paterson Brown Jr.  
Junior Prosper  
Keith Harrison McLeod  
Wayne Wheeler  
Lavante Biggs  
India Kager  
James Carney III  
Felix Kumi  
Mansur Ball-Bey  
Ashshams Manley  
Christian Taylor  
Troy Robinson  
Brian Day  
Samuel Dubose  
Darrius Stewart  
Albert Davis  
Salvado Ellswood  
George Mann  
Freddie Blue  
Johnathon Sanders  
Victo Lorosa III  
Spencer McCain  
Kevin Bajoe  
Kris Jacksons  
Kevin Higgenbotham  
Ross Anthony  
Richard Gregory Davis  
D'Angelo Reyes Stallworth  
Dajuan Graham  
Brendon Glenn  
Reginald L. Moore Sr.  
David Felix  
William Chapman  
Norman Cooper  
Darell Lawrence Brown  
Walter Scott  
Eric Courtney Harris  
Donald Ivy  
Phillip White  
Jason Moland  
Denzel Brown  
Brandon Jones  
Askari Roberts  
Bobby Gross  
Terrance Moxley  
Anthony Hill  
Tony Terrell Robinson  
Naeschylius Vinzant  
Charly Leundeu Keunang  
DeOntre L. Dorsey  
Thomas Allen Jr.  
Calvon A. Reid  
Terry Price  
Lavall Hall  
Natasha McKenna  
Jeremy Lett  
Tiano Meton  
Artago Damon Howard  
Andre Larone Murphy Jr.  
Leslie Sapp II  
Brian Pickett  
Jerome C. Reid  
David Andre Scott  
Dennis Grisby  
Rumain Brisbon  
Eric Ricks  
Tamir E. Rice  
Akai Gurley  
Keara Crowder  
Tanisha N. Anderson  
Raphael Thomas  
John T. Wilson III  
Kaldrick Donald  
Michael Ricardo Minor  
Adam Arnett Madison  
VonDerrit D. Myers Jr.  
Iretha Lilly  
Balantine Mbegbu  
Lashano J. Gilbert  
Marlon S. Woodstock  
Oliver Jarred Gregoire  
Eugene Williams  
Cameron Tillman  
Ricky Deangelo Hinkle  
Darrion Nathaniel Hunt  
Cortez Washington  
Vernicia Woodard  
Arvel Douglas Williams  
Levon Leroy Love  
Corey Lavert Tanner  
Dante Parker  
Ezell Ford  
Dustin Keith Glover  
Michael Brown  
John H. Crawford III  
Jeremy Lake  
Cedric Stanley  
Jacorey Calhoun  
Briatay McDuffie  
Eric Garner  
Charles K. Goodridge  
Christopher Jones  
Jerry Brown  
Lavon King  
Juan May  
Emanuel Jean-Baptiste  
Mark Anthony Blocker  
Montez Dewayne Hambric  
Tommy J. Yancy Jr.  
Johnathon Lee Asuzu  
Howard Wallace Bowe Jr.  
Dominique Franklin Jr.  
George V. King  
Justin Griffin  
Tyrone Davis  
Gregory Lewis Towns Jr.  
Zikarious Flint  
DeAndra Lloyd Starks  
Willie Neall Harden  
Hallis Kinsey  
Floyd Gene Hodge  
Treon Johnson  
Yvette Smith  
Ernest Salterwhite  
Anthony Bartley  
Willie James Sams  
Anesson Joseph  
Jordan Baker  
Jeffrey Ragland  
Kendall Alexander  
Cimarron Lamar Lamb  
Ervin Edwards  
Willie James Williams  
Abdul Kamal  
William Alfred Harvey III  
William Taylor  
Brandon Devone Smith  
Reginald Williams Jr.  
Jack Lamar Roberson  
Elijah Glad  
Alexander Jamar Marion  
Johnathon A. Ferrell  
Marlon Horton  
Ronnie Ledesma Jr.  
Montrell Moss  
Jeffery B. Lilly Jr.  
Jermaine McBean  
Allen Desdunes  
Ryan L. Stokes  
Larry Eugene Jackson Jr.  
Dainell Simmons  
Deomain Hayman  
Tyrone West  
Daryl Blair  
Antonio Johnson  
George Harvey  
Micah Anthony Key  
Lana Morris  
Keoshia L. Hill

# WHERE TO START

"30+ WAYS ASIANS PERPETUATE ANTI-BLACK RACISM" BY MICHELLE KIM

## PREFERRING LIGHT SKIN OVER DARK SKIN

This not only hurts members of our own community, but also inevitably perpetuates the narrative that dark skin is unworthy.

## BUYING INTO THE MODEL MINORITY MYTH

Saying things like: "They bring this upon themselves" "They should not commit crimes" The model minority myth was created to prevent solidarity among Black people and Asian people.

## FORGETTING HISTORY

Asian Americans often forget that we would not have our own civil rights if not for the Black leaders of the Civil Rights Movement.

## PUSHING ASSIMILATION

There notion among Asian American communities that as long as we try to fit in among white people we can escape racism serves to erase cultural differences and homogenizes.

## SELECTIVE POLITICAL SUPPORT

Many Asian Americans support immigration to reunite our own families but do not fight the mass incarceration of black people that separates theirs.

## PRIORITIZING ECONOMIC SUCCESS

The belief among Asian Americans that economic success will free us from racism and is the answer for all is simply giving into the system of oppression.

## ENCOURAGING SILENCE

Many Asian Americans encourage silence in the face of racism, and push the idea that so long as we keep our heads down and work hard, we will overcome prejudice. This silence occurs both in the face of anti-Asian racism and anti-Black racism. We must speak up and force our families to confront their anti-blackness, as well as speak up for ourselves.

# Further reading:

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"30+ Ways Asians perpetuate Anti-Black Racism"

by Michelle Kim

"A Letter from a Yale Student to the Chinese American Community"

by Eileen Huang

"South Asians need to do more to fight anti-Black racism"

by Meera Estrada

"In defense of Affirmative Action: a guide for Asian American students"

by Olivia Mayeda

# WHAT IS THE MODEL MINORITY MYTH?

The myth that all Asians are well off, getting good grades in school, attending elite universities, and ending up in high paying jobs.

What this serves to do is draw attention away from white privilege. Asians are used as the example of opportunity in America, showing that race is not an inhibiting factor.

This creates a false representation of opportunity in America as well as creating a false representation of the Asian community, as it disregards the struggles that a great number face – particularly within the high numbers of recent immigrants.

Finally, it serves to disrupt solidarity between people of color.

# HOW DOES THE MODEL MINORITY MYTH DISRUPT SOLIDARITY?

"It makes a flawed comparison between Asian Americans and other groups, particularly Black Americans, to argue that racism, including more than two centuries of black enslavement, can be overcome by hard work and strong family values"

JANELLE WONG, DIRECTOR OF ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK,

In 1966, William Petersen published an article in the New York Times called "Success Story: Japanese American Style". His article compared Japanese Americans and African Americans. "It solidified a prevailing stereotype of Asians as industrious and rule-abiding that would stand in direct contrast to African-Americans, who were still struggling against bigotry, poverty and a history rooted in slavery."

KAT CHOW, NPR

# LETTERS FOR BLACK LIVES

Sometimes, we might not know what to say to our families to gain their support. Letters for Black Lives has created letters with dozens of translations to help us start those conversations.

**[lettersforblacklives.com](https://lettersforblacklives.com)**

**Dear Mom, Dad, Uncle, Auntie:  
Black Lives Matter to Us, Too**

ຄົ່ນຄຸນພ່ວ ຄຸນແມ່ ແລະ ຜາຕີທີ່ຮັກແລະ ເຄາຣພ:  
ເຊີ້ວຕຄນພິວດໍາກີມີຄວາມໝາຍຕ່ອເຮາເໜືອນກັນ

প্রিয় মা, বাবা, আংকেল, আন্টি: কালো জীবন মূল্যবান, আমাদের কাছেও।

親愛的媽媽、爸爸、叔叔、阿姨：  
我們也珍惜黑人的生命

# SOLIDARITY

**In the 1960s and 70s, Black activists fought for the civil rights we enjoy today. Some Asians joined the fight and helped amplify those Black voices. We need to eminate their support today, for without those Black activists leading the fight, we would not be where we are today.**



While across the internet the slogan "Yellow Peril Supports Black Power" is popular in Asian support of the Black Lives Matter movement, it has the negative effect of centering Asian voices, something we must avoid as we work to amplify Black voices.

# Yuri Kochiyama



Yuri Kochiyama saw that racism has placed people of color in similar positions of marginalization and pushed for solidarity among the Asian American and Black communities. She was a Japanese American activist who fought for Black liberation, Puerto Rican independence, Arabs, Muslims, and South Asians post 9/11. While Kochiyama recognized the uniqueness of each ethnic group, she understood the importance of solidarity against racism and polarization.

**“SOLIDARITY DOES NOT ASSUME THAT  
OUR STRUGGLES ARE THE SAME  
STRUGGLES, OR THAT OUR PAIN IS THE  
SAME PAIN, OR THAT OUR HOPE IS FOR  
THE SAME FUTURE. SOLIDARITY  
INVOLVES COMMITMENT, AND WORK,  
AS WELL AS THErecognition THAT  
EVEN IF WE DO NOT HAVE THE SAME  
FEELINGS, OR THE SAME LIVES, OR THE  
SAME BODIES, WE DO LIVE ON COMMON  
GROUND.”**

**- SARA AHMED**

# EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

## BOOKS

- Eloquent Rage: A Black Feminist Discovers Her Superpower by Brittney Cooper
- How to be Antiracist by Ibram X
- I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
- So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo
- The Price for Their Pound of Flesh by Daina Ramey Berry
- The Possessive Investment in Whiteness: How White People Profit from Identity Politics by George Lipsitz
- The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander

# EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

## FILMS

### Netflix

- 13th
- When They See Us
- See You Yesterday
- Dear White People
- American Son
- LA 92

### Hulu

- The Hate U Give
- If Beale Street Could Talk

### HBO

- Say Her Name: The Life and Death of Sandra Bland
- Baltimore Rising
- 3 1/2 Minutes, Ten Bullets

### To buy/rent

- Black Power Mixtape: 1967-1975
- Clemency
- I Am Not Your Negro
- Selma

# EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

## PODCASTS

- Code Switch (NPR)
- About Race
- Intersectionality Matters!
- Momentum: A Race Forward Podcast
- Pod Save the People
- 1619 by The New York Times
- Sincerely, Lettie

# HOW YOU CAN HELP:

## Donate!

- Mutual Aid Funds
- National Bail Fund Network
- Reclaim The Block
- Campaign Zero
- The Bail Project
- Black Visions Collective

## Support black-owned businesses!

- Bease Butter
- Botanika Beauty
- Epara Skincare
- Gemini Naturals
- The Honey Pot Co.
- Black Vibe Tribe
- Harperlman Dolls
- Just Like Me! Book Box

...and many more!

**Vote**

**Speak up**

**Read**

**Protest**

**Listen**

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